

Cicchillo, Joseph

From: Reineke, Bill
Sent: Tuesday, October 23, 2018 9:20 AM
To: Cicchillo, Joseph
Subject: Fwd: Thursday

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: Bill Hammer <bill@universalcontrolsgroup.com>
Date: October 16, 2018 at 9:03:06 PM EDT
To: "Bill.Reineke@ohiohouse.gov" <Bill.Reineke@ohiohouse.gov>
Cc: "nearhoodjudd@gmail.com" <nearhoodjudd@gmail.com>, Bryce Riggs
<RiggsBH@tiffin.edu>
Subject: Re: Thursday

Thanks for the update, Bill

Sent from my iPhone

On Oct 16, 2018, at 8:07 PM, "Bill.Reineke@ohiohouse.gov"
<Bill.Reineke@ohiohouse.gov> wrote:

Bill, I apologize for not being able to attend Thursday evening due to a family commitment. I was hoping Bryce Riggs, could speak for me.

Bryce Riggs and Judd Nearhood will Be attending.

Sent from my iPhone

From: firstalert17@yahoo.com
To: rep88@ohiohouse.gov
Cc:
Date: 8/11/2017 10:44 AM
Subject: Please do not support HB 113 - Right to Wrong
Attachments:

Dear Representative Reineke:

Primary Sponsor: Representative Brinkman

Dear Legislator,

I urge you to not Support HB 53. Legislation that would make Ohio a "right-to-work" state is back, but it's unclear how far the controversial measure will go after voters rejected a prior effort to scale back public union bargaining rights.

Representative Brinkman a Republican from Cincinnati, is at it again. Representative Brinkman introduced on March 7, 2017, the latest iteration - HB 113. House Bill 113, private sector employees could opt out of joining a union or paying dues.

Currently, employees cannot be required to join unions. But state law allows collective bargaining agreements to require "fair share" or agency fees. The fees are lower than union member dues payments and cannot be used for services beyond contract negotiations.

But state legislators in the GOP-controlled General Assembly have been cool to enacting restrictions on labor unions in the public or private sector since 2011. That year, Gov. John Kasich signed Senate Bill 5, which greatly restricted collective bargaining rights for public union employees.

Voters overwhelmingly repealed the law.

Kasich, a Republican, has said right to work not on his agenda and taken the fight over Senate Bill 5 as a cue not to pursue the issue. Last month, legislative leaders from both parties questioned the need for right-to-work legislation. Opponents say right-to-work laws lower union membership and wages and don't lead to job growth as promised.

I believe that Right to Work Laws lowers wages, making it even harder to support a family. Right to Work Laws lessen safety rules that protect

workers. Right to Work Laws destroys worker benefits including healthcare.

How many times will the citizens of Ohio have to fight off Right to Work Laws in Ohio?

Please reject this latest attempt to introduce Right to Work in Ohio.

Sincerely,

Jason Ruffing
120 n. Liberty st
Attica, OH 44807-9002

From: "Michael Bishop" <Utu225localchairman@gmail.com>
To: rep88@ohiohouse.gov
Cc:
Date: 8/11/2017 10:43 AM
Subject: Please do not support HB 113 - Right to Wrong
Attachments:

Dear Representative Reineke:

Primary Sponsor: Representative Brinkman

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Sincerely,

Michael Bishop Jr
5191 North State Route 53
Tiffin, OH 44883

From: kc8srk@yahoo.com
To: rep88@ohiohouse.gov
Cc:
Date: 2/1/2018 10:19 AM
Subject: HB 583 Is Wrong For Working People
Attachments:

Bill Reineke,

As your constituent, I write to you today to ask that you not support House Bill 583, Representative Beckers ill-advised Right to Work is Wrong bill. When Ohio voters overwhelmingly rejected Issue 2/SB 5 in 2011, they sent a clear message that they will not tolerate any attack on Ohio's middle class. They rejected the idea that our economic

problems are the result of the workers' rights to collectively bargain and they rejected that extreme political agenda and opted instead to support governance with basic fairness.

Now, despite the voters' wholesale rejection of attacks on collective bargaining rights, and even Governor Kasich's admission that this type of law is not needed in Ohio to grow the economy, Representative Becker introduced a bill that will again try to divide workers in Ohio.

"Right to Work" is wrong laws are deceptively named. This effort, and all "right to work" is wrong laws, are not about rebuilding our state. It's not about work and it's not about rights. This is about politics, plain and simple. I am confident that when Ohioans find out that this is just a rehash of SB5 they will shut it down, just like they did in 2011.

The preponderance of evidence gathered from extensive independent research shows that so called "right to work" is wrong policies are in fact damaging to local economies as they lower wages and often create an environment that is conducive to job flight instead of fulfilling the promises of their proponents. An examination of states that have passed these laws points this out very clearly. According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, the average worker in a right to work state makes about \$535 less per month in wages. "Right to work" is wrong laws have also been shown to lower the likelihood that employees get healthcare or pensions through their jobs, and increases workplace fatality rates by 36%—again, for both union and nonunion employees-- and the laws have no impact whatsoever on job growth.

Unfortunately, this anti-worker law represents the same old politics of division that will further erode our middle class and accelerate the "race to the bottom" where all workers lose. If proponents continue to pursue these misguided measures, Ohio voters will see the effort for what it is-- a purely political attack that is dividing Ohioans and preventing any real progress on continued economic recovery. Again, these anti-worker policies lower wages, slash benefits, make workers less safe on the job and devastate communities. It doesn't just hurt union workers- it hurts ALL workers.

The General Assembly's focus needs to be on real solutions to create good family-sustaining jobs and restore balance to our economy and not on these political games. Indeed, that is exactly what Ohioans voted for in 2011 in striking down the last attempt at such a misguided policy. It would be wise for you to remember that failed attempt to limit collective bargaining rights and know that this will end in the same way. As your constituent, I ask that you please not support House Bill 583. I look forward to your response.

Rodney Chesnutte

kc8srk@yahoo.com

7501 State Route 582

Woodville, Ohio 43469

From: "Michael Bishop" <Utu225localchairman@gmail.com>
To: rep88@ohiohouse.gov
Cc:
Date: 8/11/2017 10:43 AM
Subject: Please do not support HB 113 - Right to Wrong
Attachments:

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Sincerely,

Michael Bishop Jr
5191 North State Route 53
Tiffin, OH 44883

From: kc8srk@yahoo.com
To: rep88@ohiohouse.gov
Cc:
Date: 2/1/2018 10:21 AM
Subject: Please Oppose House Bill 298
Attachments:

Bill Reineke,

I am writing you today to ask that you oppose House Bill 298, legislation that will take away my right and the rights of many of your constituents to collectively bargain for a better life.

House Bill 298 takes language straight from Senate Bill 5 dealing with sick time and tries to pass it as a standalone. Senate Bill 5/ Issue 2 was soundly defeated in 2011 by Ohioans who believe that collective bargaining shouldn't be restricted by politicians in Columbus.

I am making sure that your constituents know the truth- that this is just the first step in trying to limit what we can collectively bargain for. Today, it's about sick time; tomorrow it's about how we collectively bargain over pay, safety in the workplace and the how we grieve unfair working conditions. Please help me fight back against attempts to silence my voice at the workplace by opposing House Bill 298.

We didn't send you to Columbus to limit our voice at the workplace. We elected you to stand up and speak for us, create good jobs in your district and raise everyone's wages. Please tell Representative Merrin that you are not interested in making it harder for your constituents to collectively bargain for a better life and that you are opposed to House Bill 298.

Thank you for your consideration in this matter. I look forward to hearing your position on this terrible legislation. Have a great day.

Rodney Chesnutte

kc8srk@yahoo.com

7501 State Route 582

Woodville, Ohio 43469

From: "Mary Vanness" <vannessffd@twc.com>
To: rep88@ohiohouse.gov
Cc:
Date: 10/2/2017 2:33 PM
Subject: Please Oppose House Bill 298
Attachments:

Bill Reineke,

I ask that you oppose House Bill 298, legislation that will take away my right and the rights of many of your constituents to collectively bargain for a better life. Although I rarely use sick time, I recently was hospitalized with heart problems and had to have stents inserted on both

sides of my heart. I can continue to work and pay off the medical bills because I used a small cushion of sick time.

House Bill 298 takes language straight from Senate Bill 5 (also dealing with sick time) and tries to pass it as a standalone. Senate Bill 5/ Issue 2 was soundly defeated in 2011 by Ohioans who believe that collective bargaining shouldn't be restricted by politicians in Columbus.

I am making sure that your constituents know the truth—that this is just the first step in trying to limit what we can collectively bargain for. Today, it's about sick time; tomorrow it's about how we collectively bargain over pay, safety in the workplace and the how we grieve unfair working conditions. Please help us fight back against attempts to silence our voices at the workplace by opposing House Bill 298.

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Thank you for your consideration in this matter. I look forward to hearing your position on this terrible legislation. Have a great day.

Mary VanNess

Mary VanNess

vannessffd@twc.com

311 N. Granville Blvd.

Fremont, OH, Ohio 43420-2223

From: "Kim Leiter" <kimleiter2@gmail.com>
To: rep88@ohiohouse.gov
Cc:
Date: 9/15/2017 2:09 PM
Subject: Please Oppose House Bill 298
Attachments:

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Thank you for your consideration in this matter. I look forward to hearing your position on this terrible legislation. Have a great day.

Kim Leiter

kimleiter2@gmail.com

464 buckeye street

Clyde ohio, Ohio 43410

From: "Doug Newlove" <dnewlove001@woh.rr.com>
To: rep88@ohiohouse.gov
Cc:
Date: 2/1/2018 9:59 AM
Subject: Please don't support any of Rep. Beckers Anti-Union Bills
Attachments:

Bill Reineke,

I am deeply disturbed by the recent co-sponsorship request from Representative Beckers' office that puts forward six different anti-worker Constitutional Amendments. I am asking you as your constituent and a voter to not sign on as a co-sponsor or to support any of these proposals and to actively work to ensure that none of them advance to the Senate.

These six proposals would effectively undo labor law that has helped serve as a catalyst to create Ohio's middle class.

These proposals are nothing but a an attempt bu out-of-state groups like ALEC to silence workers at the workplace and slash wages and benefits at a time when they have been stagnant for far too long.

Neither employers nor workers and union members like myself are asking for these union-busting bills to be enacted.

Working people overwhelmingly rejected these types of attacks in 2011 when they used the citizens' veto and repealed Senate Bill 5. Ohioans strongly believe that it is past time to put the ugliness and spitefulness behind us and work to find common ground with all political parties, business and labor, on different ways to grow our economy from the middle out and raise wages for all.

Thank you for your consideration on this vital matter.

Doug Newlove

dnewlove001@woh.rr.com

2139 s twp rd 159

tiffin, Ohio 44883

From: "Leonard Herman" <Drawlen@gmail.com>
To: rep88@ohiohouse.gov
Cc:
Date: 2/1/2018 9:59 AM
Subject: Please don't support any of Rep. Beckers Anti-Union Bills
Attachments:

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Thank you for your consideration on this vital matter.

LEONARD HERMAN

Drawlen@gmail.com

859 Miami St Apt 38

Tiffin, Ohio 44883-1974



From: kc8srk@yahoo.com
To: rep88@ohiohouse.gov
Cc:
Date: 2/1/2018 10:21 AM
Subject: Please don't support any of Rep. Beckers Anti-Union Bills
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Rodney Chesnutte

kc8srk@yahoo.com

7501 State Route 582

Woodville, Ohio 43469

From: "Carole Miller" <millsohio@toast.net>
To: rep88@ohiohouse.gov
Cc:
Date: 2/1/2018 9:59 AM
Subject: Please don't support any of Rep. Beckers Anti-Union Bills
Attachments:

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Thank you for your consideration on this vital matter.

Carole Miller

millsOhio@toast.net

1830 Port Clinton Rd.

Fremont, Ohio 43420

From: "Bill Reineke" <Rep88@ohiohouse.gov>
To: "Eric Leach" <Eric.Leach@ohiohouse.gov>
Cc:
Date: 1/23/2018 4:43 PM
Subject: FW: Please don't support any of Rep. Beckers Anti-Union Bills
Attachments:

----- Original Message -----

From: Dan Doepker [ddoepker@woh.rr.com]
Received: 12/21/2017 9:53:09 AM
To: rep88@ohiohouse.gov;
Subject: Please don't support any of Rep. Beckers Anti-Union Bills

Bill Reineke,

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Thank you for your consideration on this vital matter.

Dan Doecker

ddoecker@woh.rr.com

4253 S Township Rd 151

Tiffin, Ohio 44883

From: "Dan Doepker" <ddeepker@woh.rr.com>
To: rep88@ohiohouse.gov
Cc:
Date: 2/1/2018 9:59 AM
Subject: Please don't support any of Rep. Beckers Anti-Union Bills
Attachments:

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Dan Doecker

ddoecker@woh.rr.com

4253 S Township Rd 151

Tiffin, Ohio 44883

From: "Dan Doepker" <ddeepker@woh.rr.com>
To: rep88@ohiohouse.gov
Cc:
Date: 9/15/2017 2:07 PM
Subject: Please Oppose House Bill 298
Attachments:

Bill Reineke,

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Thank you for your consideration in this matter. I look forward to hearing your position on this terrible legislation. Have a great day.

Dan Doecker

ddoecker@woh.rr.com

4253 S Township Rd 151

Tiffin, Ohio 44883



From: "Robert Tanner" <bobtanner036@gmail.com>
To: rep88@ohiohouse.gov
Cc:
Date: 9/15/2017 2:08 PM
Subject: Please Oppose House Bill 298
Attachments:

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Robert Tanner

bobtanner036@gmail.com

9790 w tr 84

Fostoria , Ohio 44830



From: "Paul Taylor" <only0082000@yahoo.com>
To: rep88@ohiohouse.gov
Cc:
Date: 2/1/2018 9:59 AM
Subject: Please don't support any of Rep. Beckers Anti-Union Bills
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Thank you for your consideration on this vital matter.

Paul Taylor

only0082000@yahoo.com

2248 Glenn Dr

Fremont , Ohio 43420

From: Paretto, Dominic
Sent: Monday, February 5, 2018 5:01 PM
To: House_All
Subject: Request for Co-Sponsorship – Paid Family and Medical Leave



MEMORANDUM

TO: All House Members
FROM: Representative Janine Boyd and Representative Kristin Boggs
DATE: February 5, 2018
RE: Request for Co-Sponsorship – Paid Family and Medical Leave

We will soon introduce legislation to create the Ohio Family and Medical Leave Insurance Program. Today we chose to send this co-sponsor request as this date marks the 25th anniversary of FMLA (Family Medical Leave Act). This legislation will provide 12 weeks of family and medical leave benefits, which will permit individuals to care for a family member, bond with a new child, or address their own serious health condition.

Out of 178 countries worldwide, the United States is one of three that does not provide paid leave to new mothers. So far five states—California, New Jersey, New York, Hawaii and Rhode Island offer some sort of paid leave to men and women who provide care. The federal Family Medical Leave Act provides 12 weeks of leave for family and medical reasons. This time is unpaid and employers with fewer than 50 employees are exempt, which eliminates a large segment of workers. Ohio should lead on the issue of paid leave to grow our economy and allow working people to put family first.

The program will be under the purview of the Department of Job and Family Services. An individual would receive leave insurance benefits for: a health condition which makes him/her unable to perform their job duties; caring for a new child during after birth, adoption, or foster care placement; caring for a child, parent, or spouse who has a serious health condition; or the individual is taking any other leave as authorized by the federal Family and Medical Leave Act. In order to be eligible for program benefits, an individual must file a

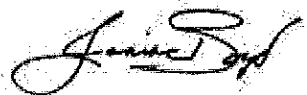
claim with ODJFS; must have worked at least 680 hours during the base period; premiums have been withheld and remitted for at least one year; and the leave must be for the above-mentioned purposes.

Once established, program benefits will be paid by assessing premiums on employees. Employers will be required to deduct and withhold premiums from employee's wages. However, an employer may opt to pay the contributions on behalf of employees.

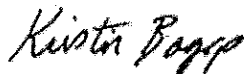
An employee who is covered by an employer policy or collective bargaining agreement that provides the employee with greater leave than that provided by the Family and Medical Leave Act may elect not to participate in the Program in accordance with rules adopted by the Director. An employee who elects to opt out of participating in the Program is not liable for any premium or contribution that would otherwise be due under the Program.

Working people in Ohio should not have to worry about losing their job or falling behind financially just to take care of a sick child or relative; address their own serious health condition; or care for and bond with their newborn child. Ohio cities like Dayton and Cincinnati are leading on leave. By allowing working people to put their family first, we can truly make Ohio a better place to live, work, and raise a family.

If you have any questions or would like to co-sponsor this legislation, please contact Dominic Paretti, at 614-644-5079 or via email at Dominic.Paretti@OhioHouse.Gov and Serena Finlay, 614-466-1896 or via email at Serena.Finlay@OhioHouse.Gov. **The deadline to co-sponsor is Friday, March 9 at 4:00pm.**



Janine Boyd
State Representative, Ohio House District 09



Kristin Boggs
State Representative, Ohio House District 18

From: Paretti, Dominic
Sent: Tuesday, February 20, 2018 10:15 AM
To: House_All
Subject: FW: Request for Co-Sponsorship – Paid Family and Medical Leave

****REMINDER-DEADLINE TO CO SPONSOR IS MARCH 9, 2018 at 4PM**

Dominic Paretti

Legislative Aide to Representative Boyd
Ohio House District 09
614-644-5079

From: Paretti, Dominic
Sent: Monday, February 05, 2018 5:01 PM
To: House_All <House_All@ohiohouse.gov>
Subject: Request for Co-Sponsorship – Paid Family and Medical Leave



MEMORANDUM

TO: All House Members
FROM: Representative Janine Boyd and Representative Kristin Boggs
DATE: February 5, 2018
RE: Request for Co-Sponsorship – Paid Family and Medical Leave

We will soon introduce legislation to create the Ohio Family and Medical Leave Insurance Program. Today we chose to send this co-sponsor request as this date marks the 25th anniversary of FMLA (Family Medical Leave Act). This legislation will provide 12 weeks of

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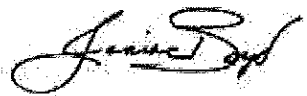
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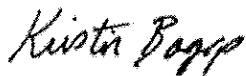
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If you have any questions or would like to co-sponsor this legislation, please contact Dominic Paretti, at 614-644-5079 or via email at Dominic.Paretti@OhioHouse.Gov and Serena Finlay, 614-466-1896 or via email at Serena.Finlay@OhioHouse.Gov. **The deadline to co-sponsor is Friday, March 9 at 4:00pm.**



Janine Boyd
State Representative, Ohio House District 09



Kristin Boggs
State Representative, Ohio House District 18

From: Paretti, Dominic
Sent: Tuesday, February 27, 2018 5:05 PM
To: House_All
Subject: FW: Request for Co-Sponsorship – Paid Family and Medical Leave

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Subject: Request for Co-Sponsorship – Paid Family and Medical Leave



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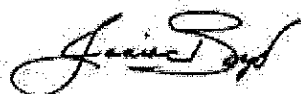
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Janine Boyd
State Representative, Ohio House District 09

Kristin Boggs

Kristin Boggs

State Representative, Ohio House District 18

From: Fedor, Teresa
Sent: Tuesday, February 27, 2018 9:34 PM
To: Paretto, Dominic
CC: House_All
Subject: Re: Request for Co-Sponsorship – Paid Family and Medical Leave

Yes

Sent from my iPhone

On Feb 27, 2018, at 5:05 PM, Paretto, Dominic <Dominic.Paretto@ohiohouse.gov> wrote:

****REMINDER-DEADLINE TO CO SPONSOR IS
MARCH 9, 2018 at 4PM**

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Legislative Aide to Representative Boyd
Ohio House District 09
614-644-5079

From: Paretto, Dominic
Sent: Monday, February 05, 2018 5:01 PM
To: House_All <House_All@ohiohouse.gov>
Subject: Request for Co-Sponsorship – Paid Family and Medical Leave

<image001.png>
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DATE: February 5, 2018
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<image002.jpg>

Janine Boyd

State Representative, Ohio House District 09

<image003.png>

Kristin Boggs

State Representative, Ohio House District 18

From: Finlay, Serena
Sent: Monday, March 5, 2018 11:11 AM
To: Paretto, Dominic
Subject: Request for Co-Sponsorship – Paid Family and Medical Leave

REMINDER-DEADLINE TO CO SPONSOR IS THIS FRIDAY AT 4PM



MEMORANDUM

TO: All House Members
FROM: Representative Janine Boyd and Representative Kristin Boggs
DATE: February 5, 2018
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Janine Boyd
State Representative, Ohio House District 09



Kristin Boggs
State Representative, Ohio House District 18

From: Finlay, Serena
Sent: Thursday, March 8, 2018 1:57 PM
To: Paretti, Dominic
Subject: Deadline Tomorrow: Request for Co-Sponsorship – Paid Family and Medical Leave

REMINDER-DEADLINE TO CO SPONSOR IS TOMORROW AT 4PM



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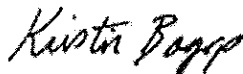
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Janine Boyd
State Representative, Ohio House District 09



Kristin Boggs
State Representative, Ohio House District 18

From: Rep88
Sent: Friday, April 13, 2018 4:34 PM
To: Cicchillo, Joseph
Subject: FW: Wind News - Ohio Setbacks in Play
Attachments: mime-attachment.jpg; mime-attachment.jpg; mime-attachment.jpg; mime-attachment.jpg; mime-attachment.png; mime-attachment.jpg; mime-attachment.jpg; mime-attachment.jpg

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Categories: General Importance

From: Rep30
Sent: Wednesday, April 12, 2017 7:51 AM
To: Rep84<Rep84@ohiohouse.gov>; Rep88<Rep88@ohiohouse.gov>; Rep82<Rep82@ohiohouse.gov>; Cliff Hite (LIO)<Hite@ohiosenate.gov>; Beagle@ohiosenate.gov; Balderson@ohiosenate.gov; Frank Strigari<Frank.Strigari@ohiosenate.gov>; Lehman, Ryan<Ryan.Lehman@ohiohouse.gov>; Kasych, Shawn<Shawn.Kasych@ohiohouse.gov>
Cc: Dumski, Allie<Allie.Dumski@ohiohouse.gov>; Benjamin, Abigail<Abigail.Benjamin@ohiohouse.gov>; Leach, Eric<Eric.Leach@ohiohouse.gov>; Emilie Regula<Emilie.Regula@ohiosenate.gov>; Ethan Zucal<Ethan.Zucal@ohiosenate.gov>; Rachael Mains<Rachael.Mains@ohiosenate.gov>
Subject: FW: Wind News - Ohio Setbacks in Play

Please read every word of this long chain. There is no way on God's Green Earth that we should even consider for a millisecond changing the wind setbacks in the budget. Any of you that want to discuss this topic, I am game but not in the budget and the ardor to change them should be tempered by what you read below.

From: Kevon Martis<kevon@kevonmartis.com>
Date: April 11, 2017 at 9:04:53 PM EDT

To:julia johnson<juliejohnson@ctcn.net>,"Seitz,
William"<william.seitz@dinsmore.com>
Subject:Re: Wind News - Ohio Setbacks in Play

A"flier"???? IT's from the f***** Michigan State University Extension,
Greening Michigan Institute, Government and Public Policy Team!!!! That's
the best they have?

MSE extension educates every planning commissioner in the State of
Michigan!

Sorry...tired.

On 4/11/2017 8:52 PM, julia johnson wrote:

Friends,

We regret that a series of computer malfunctions left us out of communication over the past two weeks.During that time the wind industry lobby has been working to get the Ohio Senate to insert a provision in the budget bill rolling back the current property line setback.At the same time, Rep. Bill Seitz has suggested that some kind of compromise on setbacks may need to be inserted in the mandate repeal bill (HB 114) when it is considered in the Senate.Seitz tells us that might be the cost of getting a veto-proof majority of Senate votes necessary to override a veto by Governor Kasich.As we understand it, a setback-related amendment to HB 114 would give township trustees the power to override current setbacks.When asked about conflicts of interest, Rep. Seitz said, *"Under my proposal, the trustees could not vote if they were participating leaseholders. My guess is that letting the trustees override the state setbacks would not result in much change as the people in the township would likely pressure them to not approve it."*What we do not know at this point is whether the township trustees would be given the opportunity to lengthen setbacks as well as shorten them.

AWEA and the environmentalists are working hard to reverse protective setbacks. What we hope does not happen, is that the current setbacks are changed AND the township trustees are given authority to put them back

only to preexisting property line measurements. There seems to be no dialog on noise or shadow flicker just distance.

In the meantime, during the past two weeks the press has reported setback controversies in Michigan, South Dakota, Rhode Island, Minnesota and Colorado. And those are just the stories we noticed.

We also draw your attention to the LeedCo Icebreaker project (aka taxpayer boondoggle) in Lake Erie. The OPSB did not accept the application as complete and has requested the LeedCo resubmit. Today the American Bird Conservancy wrote in the Chicago Tribune that all turbines should be kept out of the Great Lakes due to enormous projections of migratory slaughter. We understand that many, many people wrote comments in opposition to the LeedCo project. Now that the application must be submitted, we are told all those comments will be lost and the public will have to start over.

We are glad to be back on line and urge everyone to call their local legislators to counter the spin coming from AWEA. Cut and paste the articles about problems in other states to demonstrate these problems are real.

Diane and Julie

PS We include at the very bottom a profile of first term Ohio Rep. Craig Riedel from Defiance.

Ohio Statehouse News

April 11, 2017 OHIO

Wind, Environmental Groups Eyeing Senate For Budget Amendment To Reduce Wind Setback

A coalition of wind energy advocates is laying the groundwork for a budget effort to reduce Ohio's turbine

setback once the two-year spending measure arrives in the Senate.

Advocates said in interviews they believe senators are more amenable to their proposal to revert the setback to what it was before lawmakers increased it to 1,125 feet in a 2014 mid-biennium review budget bill, effectively killing new wind farm development.

At the same time, members of both House caucuses submitted proposed budget amendments last week offering several options to reduce the current setback.

A proposal from Rep. Bill Reineke (R-Tiffin), for instance, would reduce the setback to one-and-a-half times the height of the turbine. Although not as lenient as the pre-2014 setback, he believes it's a "good compromise" between the two sides.

"Wind is a big resource in my district and I've had a lot of requests for those setbacks to be looked at," Rep. Reineke said. "It increases it slightly over what it was pre-2014. And it changes some of the hearing requirements for the neighbors to be able to sign off if they would choose to do so. It gives it a little bit more flexibility."

Rep. Reineke said he believes there's an appetite in the House to reexamine the issue.

Whether any of those amendments will make it into the House's substitute budget (HB 49) bill expected to be unveiled April 25 is yet to be seen. But even if the House chooses to pass on the issue, advocates believe the Senate may be more willing to act.

"I certainly think there's a possibility of it (happening)," said Dayna Baird Payne, who represents the American Wind Energy Association and other proponents. "I think there is some openness in the Senate currently."

She credits much of that openness to Sen. Cliff Hite (R-Findlay), whose district would likely contain any new wind development. But advocates say the Senate overall has greater institutional knowledge of the issue and offers an easier route to generate a consensus given its smaller size.

"I think there's some understanding on that leadership team this is an issue about economic development and removing an artificial market barrier," Ms. Payne said. "If a company wants to build a wind project, locals want that project and an end user wants to purchase that wind, this stands in the way and prevents it."

The Sierra Club and the Ohio Environmental Council are among other groups hoping for a setback change in the Senate. At the same time, they continue pushing back against a Michigan State University document some Republican representatives have said justifies an additional increase in the setback.

Rep Keith Faber (R-Celina) and Rep. Bill Seitz (R-Cincinnati) have repeatedly pointed to the document in recent weeks, saying that if the legislature really wants to take the issue back up it should increase the setback to 2,500 feet.

Wind supporters, though, point out that what the lawmakers have called a "study" is referred to as a "flier" by its author and that it states a setback equal to the tower's height would be adequate. Under that rationale, they said, the state's previous setback would suffice.

"We're watching this issue," OEC General Counsel Trent Dougherty said. "Obviously, we don't believe there should be even more of an increase...so we're watching for that and expressing our opposition."

Sierra Club Ohio Chapter Director Jen Miller called the idea "ridiculous," since turbine development has already come to a virtual halt under the current setback.

"Eighty percent of wind in Ohio is actually serving markets outside of Ohio," Ms. Miller said. "We should just be fixing our problem now. We've already zoned ourselves out of the wind business."

<http://www.marion-press.com/2017/03/wind-turbines-unsafe-at-any-distance/>

The Marion Press -MICHIGAN

Tuesday, April 11, 2017

“Wind Turbines:Unsafe at any distance”



Dear Editor:

Last December, one of the turbines at the Stoney Corners wind facility burst into flames and was completely destroyed. Black smoke darkened the sky and heavy winds spread ash and burning particles on fields and properties nearby. For days the acrid odor of smoldering composites lingered in the air and seeped into my home along with several other homes in the area of the fire.

By the next day, what was left of the turbine was hauled off and some of the contaminated top soil was bulldozed into a pile where it still sits,three months later. What assurance is there that contaminates from the burned turbine are not filtering into the groundwater below?

Heritage Sustainable Energy, who owns the project, told the local press that turbine fires have never happened before in McBain. That may be so, but as a wind developer, Heritage is well aware that fire is the second largest cause of turbine failure worldwide and the problem is growing. Heritage touts wind power as clean and emission free but no one ever mentions the toxic pollutants released when the blades and other parts of the nacelle are ignited or the hazards of inhaling the gas and particles emitted by the fire.

“More than ten of the 28 Heritage turbines are sited within two miles of my home with the closest just 1700 feet away.”Back in 2008 when I agreed to sign a contract with Heritage, something I deeply regret, no one informed me of the dangers of living so close to the spinning towers. I can tell you first hand that wind turbines are not safe for humans, animals, birds of all sorts, the environment, or your electric bill. They are Not Green, Not Clean and Not Cheap.

If the state and its legislators continue to blindly insist that wind turbines are safe, they should advocate projects be sited on State and Federal land away from communities where they pollute our countryside and put people and property at risk.

There are alternatives to wind power that do not carry the same dangers and that are safer for humans, animals, birds and our countryside. Be warned and say "no" to wind power in your community.

Dianne Ziegler

<http://www.faribaultcountyregister.com/page/content.detail/id/512142/Fighting-the-winds-of-change.html>

Fighting the winds of change Pilot Grove Township residents want stricter wind ordinance

April 9, 2017

Cody Benjamin - Register Staff Writer
Faribault County Register
MINNESOTA

When the Coalition for Rural Property Rights stormed the Faribault County Courthouse on Tuesday, it was not an officially licensed organization.

But in claiming support from nearly 90 percent of Pilot Grove Township residents, overflowing the county commissioners room with agricultural advocates and literally standing in unison to plead for greater setbacks and a more restrictive ordinance pertaining to wind turbines in the county, it made its stance as official as could be.

The Coalition brands itself as "a group of Iowa landowners standing against the encroachment of industrial wind installations," but its representatives at Tuesday's meeting mostly identified themselves as Pilot Grove residents particularly ones perturbed at a Rose Lake Wind Project proposed by the independent power producer EDF Renewable Energy.

The Faribault County Board meeting room was overflowing last Tuesday, when residents of Pilot Grove Township and others testified before the commissioners about their concerns about wind turbine development.

With at least four locals reading prepared statements, several others chiming in from behind walls of other guests and the County Board forced to oversee crowded seating arrangements as much as the discussion at hand, the Coalition prefaced a visit from EDF's Shanelle Montana, a senior project developer, with adamant requests for a crackdown on turbines.

Not one of the guest speakers denied the financial benefit of wind generation, which Montana went on to crown as "an additional resource" for "cheap electricity" and therefore an obvious draw for local businesses. But complaints of everything from noisy turbine malfunctions to an alleged ignorance of the county's agricultural roots rang loud and clear as the Coalition suggested the commissioners adopt the Goodhue County wind-structure ordinance, which enforces greater setbacks than that of Faribault County's renewable energy restrictions.

Paul Carr, who said he has mostly been a lifelong Pilot Grove Township resident, helped kick off the campaign. "I come here," Carr said, "representing and on behalf of about 88 percent of Pilot Grove Township residents, who have signed a petition to increase a setback of commercial wind generators to non-participating residences."

Saying that current setbacks, which dictate that wind turbines can be placed roughly 1,000 to 1,500 feet from such residences, are "not far enough to prevent material harm" such as added noise, shadow flicker and "a complete change of environment," Carr asked that local constituents be prioritized over the economic boosts of projects like the one proposed by EDF.

Montana later countered by suggesting the EDF project, which would span from Pilot Grove Township into Martin County, would not begin taking shape until 2020. By that point, such a project would not be federally subsidized,

therefore potentially lessening the financial burden on local communities.

But concerns remained.

"Most object to an object roughly the size of a Boeing 747, over 400 feet in the air and constantly moving, being placed within 1,000 to roughly 1,500 feet of them," Carr said. "Without more setbacks for large wind turbines, the county may find itself with more money to spend on a public garage (only) to serve its fewer residents."

Carolyn Zierke, a local agronomist of 25 years, wondered aloud why counties, especially Faribault County, would even consider uprooting or impeding upon signature farmlands for the sake of wind projects.

"Why are counties overlaying an industrial zone on top of a productive agricultural zone?" she asked. "A turbine is not a piece of farm equipment, and it is not a farm structure."

Dan Moore, once a director of project development for Renewable Energy Solutions and one of the developers behind Blue Earth's Big Blue Windfarm, agreed.

"I sat here in this same seat 14 years ago," Moore said, referencing a decades-old visit to the County Board regarding turbine development. "Today, I am here as a retired wind generator developer ... and I am asking for the adoption of the Goodhue County ordinance."

Reviewing his own history in campaigning for wind energy, Moore reminded the board that he helped other turbines, including those at Winnebago's Corn Plus ethanol plant, come to life.

But after discovering some of the faults of turbine projects, particularly noisy side effects, he made it clear Tuesday that he was standing with none other than the waves of Pilot Grove people behind him.

"Had I known they would be this noisy, guys," he said, referring to the Big Blue turbines, "listen, I would never have started developing that project."

Producing an apple from his shirt pocket and leaving it on the guest podium in front of the commissioners, Moore asked the board to overlook promises of more money for the concerns of the rural residents.

"Don't get mesmerized by the apple money," he said. "Don't let the illusion of big money generated by these big machines cloud your judgment in protecting the residents who are forced to live around these big machines. These are the families that have elected you guys to protect them, so please don't bite the apple."

Others reiterated the alluring, albeit apparently deceiving, role of money in the matter.

"In the end, it seems like the money always wins," one man said from the mass of guests, saying the county already houses 22 industrial-sized turbines. "EDF is on the agenda after us, and I'm sure they're going to tell you how great this is, how every project they've built has left counties rich and happy, because that's what this big push for wind is all about money."

When Montana, of EDF, was finally summoned to speak, weaving through the crowd of standing guests to make herself seen, she did not ignore money's part in the discussion.

But her first point centered on the fact that EDF will not pursue any project, let alone one that allegedly threatens the well-being of nearly an entire township, without the community's support.

"I'm not here to shove a project down anyone's throat," Montana said, recounting her own upbringing as a "farm girl." "I'm just here to present something. We're only here if we have a willing partner, and that partner is a community."

Claiming that the state of Minnesota already owns some of the strictest wind turbine setbacks in the country, Montana assured some of the concerned residents that if any malfunctioning or noisy structures reached certain decibel levels, they would be shut down.

"A decommissioning plan is required with these projects," she noted.

All things considered, Montana still urged the commissioners to weigh their options. "This is up to the community," she said. "I just want you to know that if you have an additional setback, I cannot efficiently and effectively develop a low-cost project."

Pilot Grove visitors flocked to the EDF developer after departing the commissioners room, some alleging that a February public meeting on the proposed turbine project was available through "private invitation only," and others saying they heard EDF partners are contracted not to speak negatively about polarizing projects.

But more talks regarding the future of the project, and the ordinance that might inhibit it, are on the docket.

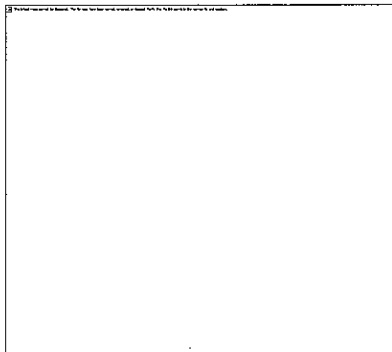
Commissioner Greg Young, who acknowledged most of the concerns stemmed from a township he represents, agreed with board chairman John Roper that a work session with the county's Planning and Zoning department was in order. A unanimous vote by the commissioners then scheduled that session for April 18, immediately following the board's next regular meeting.

And now, having shared or considered opinions from both sides of a windy spectrum, the county, Montana and the Coalition for Rural Property Rights wait.

http://www.starbeacon.com/news/local_news/conneaut-wind-turbine-facing-uncertain-future/article_2ca4767c-b0e9-5bd2-9215-22d8377023fc.html

Conneaut wind turbine facing uncertain future

By MARK TODDOHIO



WARREN DILLAWAY | Star Beacon

An arm of a Conneaut Harbor wind turbine was severed by lightning last month.

CONNEAUT — A wind turbine severely damaged by lightning late last month is facing an uncertain future on Conneaut's lakefront.

At Monday's City Council meeting, City Manager James Hockaday said the turbine's owner, NexGen Energy, wants a long-term renewal of its contract with the city before it will proceed with repairs.

The 400-kilowatt turbine was constructed in January 2010 to provide some of the electricity used by the city's sewage treatment plant. On Feb. 25, lightning blew apart one of the turbine's blades. A power surge from the blast also damaged some equipment and fixtures inside the plant.

A contract with NexGen obliges the city to buy electricity generated by the turbine for 10 years. The contract expires in 2020.

Hockaday said NexGen estimates repairs to the turbine will cost \$250,000. To make the fix-up financially feasible for NexGen, the company would require an extension to its contract with the city, he told council.

A contract proposal is being prepared and will be shared with council when it's delivered, Hockaday said. If no agreement on a contract extension is reached, the city would ask the turbine be disassembled and removed.

NexGen said the damage to the turbine was among the most severe the company has experienced, Hockaday said Monday. The extent of damage to the plant is still being assessed, he said.

The biggest concern is a blower motor on one piece of equipment that is not working properly.

In August 2011, 18 months after the turbine was installed, lightning damaged a blade that was replaced several months later.

A NexGen spokesperson could not be reached for comment.

Another NexGen wind turbine, a 600-kilowatt model adjacent to Conneaut Middle School on Gateway Avenue, has been idle for years. NexGen is suing the manufacturer, alleging parts were defective. The turbine, designed to provide electricity to CMS, never performed as planned since it went online in late 2009, according to the lawsuit, filed in 2013.

Repairs to the school turbine won't happen until the lawsuit is settled, NexGen officials said at the time.

<http://gazette.com/reassurances-fail-to-convince-some-neighbors-el-paso-county-wind-farm-is-safe/article/1599581>

Reassurances fail to convince some neighbors El Paso County wind farm is safe

By: Rachel Riley

March 23, 2017 Updated: March 24, 2017 at 6:21 am
COLORADO

Residents living by a wind farm near Calhan say the turbines are affecting their health and harming animals, despite reassurances from experts at this week's El Paso County commissioners' meeting.

Jeff Wolfe, who lives close to NextEra Energy's Golden West wind farm, said he's experienced nausea, dizziness and migraines since it began operating in fall 2015. He attributes the symptoms to the low-frequency sound waves, known as infrasound, emitted by the 145 windmills.

"This is poisoning people. It's poisoning animals," said Wolfe, who has lived at his home between Yoder and Calhan for 20 years. He also blames the turbines for the cardiovascular problems his wife has begun to experience and the death of seven of their animals, including five dogs.

At the meeting, intended to provide commissioners and residents with an update on the wind farm, county staff and NextEra officials presented reports on the sound levels of the windmills and the flickering effect, known as "shadow flicker," that occurs when the sun shines through the turbines' rotating blades. A half-dozen residents also had the chance to air their grievances about the wind farm, approved by commissioners in 2013, which has long been a source of controversy.

Experts told commissioners that study after study has shown the infrasound generated by windmills isn't hazardous to humans, and the levels of infrasound and amount of shadow flicker created by the turbines are in compliance with local regulations and zoning rules.

John Dailey, senior business manager for the Florida-based energy company, said the company has received 83 complaints about the project since March 2015, a month after commissioners OK'd a change to the original construction plan that included a 29-mile above-ground power line.

About 70 of the complaints were made during the seven months the farm was being built and mostly involved construction-related concerns about noise and dust. Of the roughly 15 others that have been made since the \$400 million project was completed, more than half have been resolved, Dailey said.

"I think that's a pretty good track record,"he told commissioners.

Assessor Steve Schleiker also presented data from June through January showing property values in the area have not fallen due to the wind farm. Properties sold within a one-mile radius of the turbines and transmission line went for prices well above market values. He also cited numbers from the Pikes Peak Multiple Listing Service that showed that average sale prices of single family homes in the Calhan and Ramah area increased by about 45.5 percent between February 2016 and February 2017.

"Bottom line, it's all good news,"he told commissioners.

A consultant with environmental engineering and consulting firm Epsilon Associates, hired by NextEra to conduct studies on sound levels and shadow flicker that were required by its agreement with the county, presented the firm's findings.

One report, which measured noise levels at 15 different locations near the wind farm, concluded that the turbines do not exceed the noise limit set by county ordinance. The second report, which used a computerized model to measure the duration of shadow flicker experienced by homes near the farm, stated that most of the homes experience less than the 30-hour-per-year maximum imposed by county regulations. The two exceptions were homes that are not included in the requirement because their owners have voluntary agreements with the company.

While research has linked high levels of infrasound to symptoms such as headache and nausea, the levels created by the turbines are too low to pose health risks, said Chris Ollson, an environmental health scientist who spoke at the meeting.

But residents who testified during the public comment part of the meeting dismissed the data, saying the infrasound and shadow flicker are still taking a toll.

"It's changed our life dramatically,"said Joe Cobb, who lives close to the wind farm."And I don't care how many experts

come up here and tell me it's perfectly normal. It's not perfectly normal."

Several of the complaints the company has yet to resolve were made by people who spoke at the meeting, said Steve Stengel, director of communications for NextEra. "We will continue to seek a satisfactory resolution with these individuals," Stengel said in an email following the meeting.

Commissioner Darryl Glenn said his colleagues and county staff would review residents' concerns and some of the research that was provided by objectors.

Glenn also encouraged residents to use the formal complaint process, outlined in NextEra's contract with the county, to express their concerns about the effects of the windmills.

Under the terms of the contract, commissioners have the option to "require additional and reasonable mitigation or remedial actions" if NextEra does not adequately address complaints.

<http://www.krdo.com/news/top-stories/calhan-wind-farm-situation-remains-unresolved/411990993>

Calhan wind farm situation remains unresolved

Nextera says turbines are within safety guidelines

By: Scott Harrison

Posted: Mar 23, 2017 06:38 PM MDT **COLORADO**

COLORADO SPRINGS, Colo. - An El Paso County commissioner said Thursday that safety and health concerns regarding the Nextera wind farm in Calhan may never be resolved to everyone's satisfaction.

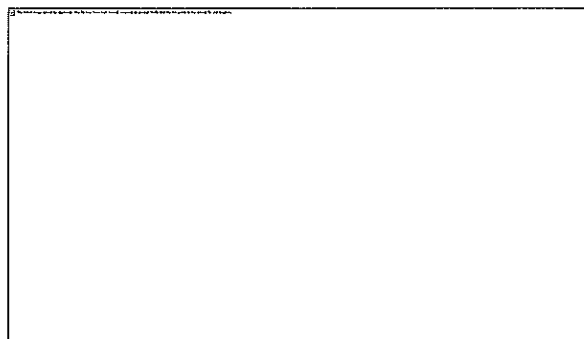
"I don't know that it's within our authority to consider at this point in time," said Commissioner Mark Waller. "It's been approved. The process has already taken place to allow Nextera to operate a wind farm."

Ever since the wind farm opened last fall, a small but vocal group of current and former neighbors has expressed concern that noise, other types of sound called infrasound and shadow flicker from turbine blades have sickened people and animals.

"I had to move away because I was sick," said Jeff Wolfe. "My wife stays behind to care for our animals and she's getting sick. I put my life savings into our home."

Wolfe said 10 to 15 families have moved away from Calhan because of the situation.

Commissioners on Thursday held a hearing on the matter that lasted nearly four hours.



John Dailey, a Nextera spokesman, declined an interview request from KRDO NewsChannel 13 to explain what else besides the wind farm could be affecting health.

But in a presentation during the hearing, Dailey cited Nextera studies, and research from two consultants, which state the wind farm is well within the health and safety guidelines established in the company's permit from the county.

"Generally speaking, (any) complaints (or) impacts have been attributed to infrasound, which is a form of noise," he said. "We've received complaints of that nature from four or five individuals -- some of them, multiple times."